for R. McMullin

An Annual Report

On Domestic Missions & Revivals.

The object of the following report is, to give in a condensed form, a view of the operations of our Board of Domestic Missions, and to present what information we have been able to gather, as to the revivals in our Church, during the last year. The Board has been somewhat embarrassed in its operations during the year, owing to the scarcity of funds. The total amount of receipts from all sources, at the time the annual report was made out, was $ 81,148.98. The whole amount paid out & other liabilities for the year, amount to $ 86,647.47. which will leave the Board, $ 4,900.49 in debt. Thus we see, that in order for it to be unfettered in its operations, and go forward in its work, its resources must be increased. And in order to this, there must be a missionary Spirit awakened among God's people. That they may come boldly up to the work and cast in of their substance into the treasury of the Lord trusting in his promise, that he, that giveth

to the poor, lendeth to the Lord, and he will repay.
As to the actual operations of the Board. The whole number of missionaries in commission during the last year, was, 538. The number of Churches and missionary stations, wholly or in part supplied, has been, as far as reported 1101. The number of newly organized Churches - 49. The number of admissions on examination, 1719; and on certificate 1665; making a total, of admissions, of 3384. The number in communion with the Churches connected with the Board, is 24,082. The number of Sabbath Schools, 643, of teachers 4356; and of Scholars 27,697. Number of baptisms 2367, and of houses of worship erected or finished, 77. During the year, there have been between 45 & 50 Churches that have gone off the Board, and become self-sustaining. Here is great reason for thanksgiving and praise to God for the great work. He is doing in our land by this single instrumentality. We have reason to rejoice, that in many places, where, not long since, a cloud of thick darkness brooded over the people; and not a ray of light to penetrate the midnight gloom; a great light has sprung up and -

thousands have been converted unto God. But although we have reason to rejoice for the Lord has done for us, yet it is not a tithe of what must be done, before that precious promise is fulfilled, all shall know the Lord from the least unto the greatest. But thanks to the Great Head of the Church, our beloved zion is still on the increase. During the last ecclesiastical year, the presbytery of Oregon was organized, the presbytery of California was divided into two presbyteries, and severally Called the presbytery of California and Stockton, and these three presbyteries were constituted a Synod, called "the Synod of the Pacific." This Synod held its first annual meeting in the City of San Francisco on the third Thursday of last October, and was open with a sermon by the oldest minister present. Thus the Standard of the Redeemer is firmly planted in the plains of the great Pacific Slope, and the light of the gospel Shines forth from sea to sea, and anthems of praise, like Sweet incense, ascends to God, from one end of the land to the other.
Our Missionaries are doing, also, a good work among the Colored populations. Communications have come up

from most of the Southern States, and all show a strong disposition, on their part, to engage in this great work. This a Class that peculiarly need the Sympathy and aid of the Church. For they have no means of helping themselves, and unless they receive aid from without they must perish for lack of knowledge.

The Church extention Scheme, as a branch of Domestic missionary work, demands attention. This plan for the advancement of the Redeemer's kingdom, was Carried into effect, in 1844, and since that time, has been gradually gaining strenght. But, we are sorry to say, that it has, by no means, been appreciated by the Churches as it should be. The whole amount of money received during the last year, was, $7,101,40. Of this sum $4,224,80 was from individuals, and $2,876,60 from Churches. The payments during the year amounted to $4,999,61, leaving a ballance in the treasury of $2,136,44. The appropriations uncalled for, but for which the fund is liable, amount to $2,439,56, or $303,12 over and above the amount in the treasury to meet them. During the year, Special appropriations have been made to thirteen

Churches, as desired by the donors of the money. And 16 Churches have finished, and received their appropriations from the fund. This is a good worked, and should be encouraged. If it is enabled to go on, it will be the means of placing many an infant, on a firm basis, which would otherwise have to Struggle along, with mere existence, with no house to worship in, and no means for building one. It becomes us, therefore, who are interested in the advancement of Christ's Kingdom, to take this matter to heart, and earnestly to pray God, that He would Stir up His people to more diligents in the great work which He has given them to do.

The whole work of Domestic Missions must be sustained and carried on by the free will offerings of the Church. When therefore the Church has faith and love in lively exercise, She gives liberally of her substance, and unites in earnest prayer to God, for His blessing on their Contributions, and thus the work

of the Lord is made to go on. But when the State of piety and zeal becomes low in the Church, this work soon feels the effects of it. There is perhaps more need of active and vigorous effort on the part of the Board and its friends, at the present time, than at any former period of its existence. This will be manifest when we take into consideration how greatly the field has been extended within a few years. Texas, with all its wide extent of territory is purely Missionary ground. California and Oregon, also, like Macedonia of old send up frequent Calls for help. And shall these Calls be unheeded? This work must go on. The people of God must awake to their duty, and come up to their duty and the help of the Lord against the Mighty.

As to revivals. God hath not left us without some precious tokens of his favor. On some of the Congregations the Divine Spirit has been shed forth, and souls have converted

unto God. Revivals of religion are reported to have occurred in one or more churches in each of the following presbyteries. Ogdensburgh Buffalo City, Elizabethtown, New Brunswick, Saratoga, Ohio, Zanesville, New Albany, Indianapolis, Missouri, St. Louis, Transylvania, West Hanover, East Hanover, Erie, Beaver, Upper Missouri, Richland, Sangamon, Hopewell, Tuskaloosa, South Alabama, and Memphis. Several Colleges also, have shared in the reviving influences of the Holy Spirit. Oglethorpe and Miami Universities, have been blessed with Seasons of refreshing from the Lord. In Jefferson College, between fifty and Sixty have been converted from the Error of their ways to Serve the living God.
And in Centre College, forty united with the Church, and all were more or less impressed with a Sence of Sin and the need of a Savior.
It is a very interesting Circumstance in Con-

nection with the revivals in these Colleges, that they began nearly simultaniously with the day of prayer recommended by the last General Assembly, and observed by all Churches. If these results were in answer to the prayers of God people on that day, may we not expect similar, or even greater results from the last Thursday of next February, which has been set apart as a day of Special prayer.

A very cheering revival of religion has been for some months in progress among the people of the Rev. Alfred Hamilton. in Chester Co. Pa. It had its commencement in a series of daily religious services. Many ministers aided in proclaiming the truth. principally the Rev. Thomas Hunt. For a long time previous to this gracious shower of the Spirit's influence, the heavens seemed as brass. The faithful in Israel went mourning, day by day, over the desolations

of Zion. The pastor cried with a faithful voice at the temple gate, prayed with tears at the mercy seat, preached repentance at the sick bed-side and the hearth, plead with sinners one by one, and alone, as friend pleadeth with a friend. but still the blessing tarried. At length the heavens were opened, and the showers of Gods ~~xxxxx~~ grace descended in copious effusions. Forty four made a public profession of their faith in Christ. Faithful is the promise, that he, that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless return again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.

Another precious revival has lately occurred in S. L. Of which we cannot give a better account, than by copying from the Home and Foreign Record. "The Rev. Dr. Baker has been laboring with great success in the Divine Master's Cause, in Sumpter District S. C. The gospel, through his instrumentality,

having been made the power of God unto
Salvation unto to many Souls. A Correspondent
from Kingstree S. C. writes as follows. We
have just closed a Meeting of nine days Con-
tinuance, in the Williamsburgh Church,
And the result exibits the most powerful
work of Grace, within the recolection of
the oldest inhabitants. For this blessing,
we are indebted, under God, to the Rev. Dr.
Baker, of Texas, who preached every Sermon
on the occasion except one. The number of
Converts, that for reports, is Sixty four;
And on many Souls the Sun of Righteous-
ness, seems to be just rising. On last Sab-
bath about fifty young Converts Sat down
together for the first time at the Table of
the Lord, while a vast Congregation of old
disciples looked on with gratitude and wonder.
Among these were Some of the most intellec-
tual men in our Community. Heads of families
And Some precious youth, who, it is hoped will

devote themselves to themselves to the work of the Ministry. A blow has been struck at the empire of Satan, here, which we trust will be felt for years to come. The Lord has done great things for us, whereof we are glad. Thus we see that the Redeemer's Kingdom is built up through the instrumentality of his servants, and God by the foolishness of preaching, is saving Some. Let us therefore pray God, that He will bless his truth, and make it the power of God and wisdom of God unto Salvation.

Oratory

December 1st 1852

John Kelly & Reporter.

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